

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1594**

---

---

**Introduced by Committee on Veterans Affairs (Parra (Chair),  
Cohn, Kehoe, Matthews, Mullin, Nakano, Salinas, and Wiggins)**  
*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Cogdill, Dutra, Lowenthal,  
Mountjoy, Mullin, Runner, and Steinberg)*

February 21, 2003

---

---

An act to add Section 11139.4 to the Government Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1594, as amended, Committee on Veterans Affairs. Discrimination: veterans.

Existing law prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, sex, or physical or mental disability under any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered by the state or by any state agency, is funded directly by the state, or receives any financial assistance from the state.

This bill would specify that the provision of housing exclusively for ~~low-income, disabled, or~~ homeless veterans *who possess significant barriers to social reintegration and employment* is authorized by the state, and shall not be considered discrimination, notwithstanding any provision of state law or of local ordinances.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 11139.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

11139.4. (a) It is the policy of this state and the purpose of this section to facilitate and support the development and operation of ~~housing for low income, disabled, or homeless veterans.~~ *housing for homeless veterans who possess significant barriers to social reintegration and employment due to physical and mental disability, substance abuse, and the effects of long-term homelessness that renders them unable to share housing with the general homeless population.*

(b) The provision of housing exclusively for ~~low income, disabled, or homeless veterans~~ *veterans who possess significant barriers to social reintegration and employment* is hereby authorized and shall not be considered unlawful discrimination, notwithstanding any other provision of law, including, but not limited to, Sections 51, 51.2, and 51.10 of the Civil Code, Sections 11135, 12920, and 12955, Chapter 11.5 (commencing with Section 50800) of Part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code, and local housing discrimination ordinances.

(c) This section shall occupy the field of regulation of housing ~~for low income, disabled, or homeless veterans by any local public~~ *veterans who possess significant barriers to social reintegration and employment by any local public* entity, including, but not limited to, a city, county, and city and county.

(d) For purposes of this section, “housing for ~~disabled or homeless~~ veterans” means emergency, transitional, or permanent housing tied to supportive services that assist ~~disabled or homeless~~ *veterans who possess significant barriers to social reintegration and employment* in stabilizing their lives and developing the skills and resources they need to make a successful transition to independent, self-sufficient lives.